Appl. No. 09/914,244 Amdt. dated July 16, 2004 Reply to Office Action of May 6, 2004

## Amendments to the Specification

In the ABSTRACT, please replace the paragraphs as shown.

The invention relates to a method of reading magnetic information by means of a read head including a magneto-resistive rod RMR, which is to be polarized by means of an electrical signal Imr and serves to supply a data signal Vmr whose variations are representative of the magnetic-field variations to which the read head is exposed.

The method in accordance with the invention includes a compression step of the data signal Vmr, which compression step is triggered off when a thermal asperity is detected.

The invention enables amplifiers arranged downstream from the device to be protected against peaks in the data signal, without altering the latter under normal operating conditions.

Application: hard disk readers.

The invention relates to a method of reading of magnetic information. In an example embodiment, a read head includes a magneto-resistive rod polarized with an electrical signal. The magneto-resistive rod supplies a data signal whose variations are representative of magnetic-field variations to which the read head is exposed. Included in the embodiment, there is a compression of the data signal triggered when a thermal asperity is detected.